

# THE ALBANY ARGUS.

PRINTED ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, IN STORE-LANE, BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND GREEN STREETS.

[Vol. I.]

Albany, Tuesday, January, 26, 1813.

[NUMBER 1.]

**PUBLISHED BY J. SUEL,**  
**AT THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM,**  
ONE DOLLAR IN ADVANCE.  
Subscriptions for less than a year to be paid wholly in advance.  
Advertisements, when inserted on the ordinary rates.

### Albany Republican Meeting.

At an adjourned meeting of the Republican Citizens of the City of Albany, held at Ladd's Coffee House, on the 4th January, 1813, for the purpose of taking into consideration the expediency of establishing a new Republican Journal in this City. The Committee appointed at the last meeting, for the purpose of preparing an Address to the Republicans of this State, exposing the views of the Republican of the City of Albany; in adopting measures preparatory to the issuing of a new Public Journal, made a report, which, having been read and considered, thereupon,

Resolved, That this meeting approve of the said Report, and that the same be forthwith printed and distributed under the superintendance of the chairman and secretary, and the committee, whose names are subscribed thereto.

### TO THE REPUBLICANS OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK.

Friends and Fellow-Citizens,  
It cannot have escaped your observation, nor can it have failed to call forth your solicitude and regret, that at a period like the present, this section of the State is destitute of a public Journal willing to defend our national and state governments in the honest discharge of their high functions, and willing and solicitous to repel those seditious calumnies continually poisoning the public mind.

The American nation has been driven into a war, in defence of our most inalienable rights as freemen; a war, forced on us by the injustice and rapacity of a haughty and tyrannical government, which has seen our unwarlike progress towards greatness, with the most malignant eye. Great Britain never forgave us for our manly resistance to her tyranny in the war of the revolution, and hence she has never respected our rights as a nation since. Under the administration of the illustrious Washington, in a moment of unsuspecting confidence, she let loose her cruelties upon our defenceless commerce, and swept it from the ocean. It is true we demanded redress, and the fear of awakening the sleeping energies of the nation, induced her to grant us a reluctant and partial compensation for her robbery, upon our stipulating to mercantile stipulations, which Washington hesitatingly sanctioned. Since that period, the catalogue of her enormities has been rapidly increasing; indignity has been heaped on indignity; murders have succeeded murders; our harbors have been blockaded, our vessels hearing the production of our own salt, have been captured and condemned under her unprincipled and atrocious Orders in Council; and to complete the measure of our wrongs, native Americans have been kidnapped, carried into bondage, and obliged to fight the battles of their tyrants against their brethren. In every stage of these oppressions, our government has renounequed, our ambassadors of peace have been deluded with the show of negotiation, and all the patient efforts of a wise and provident administration have been unavailingly exerted in being Great Britain to a sense of what was due to justice and the American nation. So solicitous was president Madison, for a speedy termination of the war, that at the moment of sanctioning his declaration, he caused to be delivered to the British envoy, Mr. Foster, a declaration, that it would terminate on England's repelling her Orders in Council, and entering into arrangements whereby our season would be secured from improvement.

We put the question broadly to you—are you willing to stand by your government, until England shall be compelled to abstain from robbing our merchants of their property, and until she shall cease from enslaving our brethren? For ourselves we are free to declare, that we venerate our rulers for the magnanimous stand they have made in defence of our just and unalienable rights, and “we pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor,” to afford our utmost aid in supporting our government in this sacred war of our independence.

The efforts of the friends of liberty, republicanism and the independence of the nation, will be unavailing, unless some means are adopted to keep the public mind well and honestly informed. It is true we have presses in sufficient number; but instead of fanning the sacred fire of patriotism, and calling forth the ardor and enthusiasm of a patriotic and noble minded people; they are generally biased in reviling our rulers, in misrepresenting the conduct of our public agents, in exciting the jealousy of the people, and in inducing into their minds distrust and a want of confidence. These venal presses dwell on our misfortunes with delight, and record every disastrous event with a pleasure they illy conceal.

It is true we have met with disasters on land, and whether they are attributable to want of experience or to other causes, it is not our province to determine. But the men who compose our armies, and who man our public and private ships, have the same origin; our brave defenders on the ocean have immortalized themselves; and HULL, DECATUR and DOWNES, are receiving the plaudits of the nation. Would it not then be unjust to doubt the courage and prowess of our armies, when they shall become somewhat disciplined and accustomed to look danger in the face? We cannot, we do not fear the result; it is necessary to ensure victory, engaged as we are in the maintenance of those rights vouchsafed by God himself, is union among ourselves,

then the myriads of England and her savage allies will flee before our embattled ranks, and acknowledge us as terrible in arms as we have been slow to wrath.

We do not believe it necessary to pursue the subject, or further to detail to you the necessity of establishing a new press at the seat of your state government; that necessity has been long felt and is obvious to all, who feel animated in the support of government, and in cherishing and maintaining unimpaird our republican institutions and our republican ascendancy.

James Buzot, Esq. has determined to establish a new paper in this city under the title of “THE ALBANY ARGUS.” He has for several years conducted “The Freeman,” at Kingston, a paper justly venerated for its firm and unambitious support of republican principles. The Albany Argus, we can confidently assure you, will be permanently established, it will support with all its energies, the administration of the general and state governments, and it will steadfastly maintain those fundamental pillars in all good governments, purity in our public bodies and councils, and purity in the whole body politic.

Of the unfortunate divisions in the republican party, it is not our intention to speak; these divisions are sensibly felt, and deeply deplored; it is our fervent wish, as we doubt not it will be Mr. Buzot's disposition, to ally and associate, rather than to increase and irritate them.

If our objects, thus candidly and explicitly laid before you, meet your approbation and concurrence, then we ask your zealous patronage of the proposed Journal, which, we are confident, will be conducted on the principles we have stated, and will deserve support at the hands of republicans, and we do not doubt their patriotism or willingness to afford it.

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|----------------------|-------------------|
| John Taylor          | Eliza Perkins     |
| John Wood            | James W. Adams    |
| George Mendenhall    | Thomas Brooks     |
| Charles E. Dudley    | Peter Don         |
| Harold Livingston    | Edwin Dutcher     |
| Thomas Livingston    | Samuel Johnson    |
| Richard Duncanson    | Y. L. Clark       |
| John J. Gault        | Samuel Norton     |
| William Rodgers      | Abraham Spanghans |
| John Foster, Junr.   | Richard Wright    |
| Mass Rich            | Willard Walker    |
| John Grant           | James Hill        |
| Thomas Deane         | Yakov D. Young    |
| Daniel Egan          | Yakov Van Buren   |
| Patrick McEgan       | Henry B. Smith    |
| Richard Keweenaw     | Lucas Hamilton    |
| John Thompson        | Thomas Morgan     |
| Henry C. Deane       | Caroline Young    |
| John M. Galt         | Eliza Dorr        |
| John Thompson        | George Knapp      |
| Thomas Brooks, Junr. | Thomas Calkins    |
| John W. Adams        | John Rogers       |
| Thomas Brooks, Junr. | John W. Adams     |
| William Alger        | Henry P. McManis  |
| J. P. Van Buren      | Lucas Hamilton    |
| John Stillwell       | John I. Wood      |
| Richard Duncanson    | John Livings      |
| R. Van Buren         | Lawrence Tenney   |
| Patrick Attridge     | Isaac L. Wilson   |
| Daniel Merrill       | James Thayer      |
| John Porter          | George W. Merdoun |
| Enoch McCombs        | William Deane     |
| Henry Reddick        | William Fowler    |
| Samuel W. Wood       | Alvan Robinson    |
| Samuel Johnson       | Peter Palsgraf    |
| Lucas Hamilton       | Peter Spivey      |
| Christian Miller     | Francis Galtman   |
| Baron Smith          | John Siffers      |
| Walter Fish          | Richard C. Shuman |
| George Wood          | E. Halstead       |
| John I. Wood         | James Hill        |
| William Doyle        | Yakov Dorr        |
| Patrick Smith        | Alvan Robinson    |
| Samuel Johnson       | Samuel Johnson    |
| John Siffers         | John Siffers      |
| Allen Brown          | John Siffers      |
| Lyman Wood           | Samuel Johnson    |
| Richard Duncanson    | Samuel Johnson    |
| John J. Gault        | Samuel Johnson    |
| Sheldon Mallory      | Samuel Johnson    |
| John Champlin        | Samuel Johnson    |
| Peter P. Don         | Samuel Johnson    |
| Charles Duncanson    | Samuel Johnson    |
| John A. Lansing      | Samuel Johnson    |

HENRY QUACKENBOSCH, Chairman,  
ADRIAN HEGEMAN, Junr. Secretary.

### REPUBLICAN MEETING.

At a general meeting of the Republicans of the City and County of New-York, convened pursuant to public notice, at Tammany-Hall, on the 11th day of January, 1813, AUGUSTUS WRIGHT was chosen chairman, and ADRIAN HEGEMAN Secretary.

The following Address, prepared by the republican general committee, was read and adopted.

### ADDRESS.

THE republicans of the city and county of New-York, beg leave to address their fellow republicans in the different counties throughout the state on a subject which they deem of primary importance; it is on the mode of selecting candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant-governor.

The usual manner in which the candidates for these offices have heretofore been nominated, has been in a caucus at Albany, composed of the republican members of the legislature. To this mode there is a strong and unanswerable objection; it tends to deprive a great part of the republicans of the state, of the invaluable right of a voice in the selection of their chief magistrates; it, in fact, exposes them to an evil peculiarly obnoxious to the principles of republican government, that of yielding a part of the controlling of the whole. To illustrate the truth of this position, it is necessary to mention two or three facts which will speak for themselves. At no one time has the representation of this state been entirely republican, nor is it possible in the nature of things for it to be so. Many counties, and

large districts of the state are represented by federalists, though perhaps the republican minority in each of these counties may be very numerous. Of course, if the nomination of candidates be made by the republican members of legislature, these great minorities have no voice in the selection. The unusual exercise of elective right consequent to this mode is peculiarly apparent at this moment, when the popular branch of the legislature has passed into federal hands. A majority of the counties of the state have no republican representatives in legislature. Some of these counties are the most popular in the state, and their republican minorities exceed in number the minorities of other successful counties. We will take for example the city and county of New-York, the population of this county is so great as to yield eleven representatives, nearly double that of any other county in the state. The county at present is entirely represented by federalists, yet it is well known that they gained their election merely by a coalition in the republican party, and that even with the assistance of malcontents, their majority scarcely exceeded the minority of consistent republicans.

There is, consequently, in this county, a body of republicans greater perhaps than in any other county of the state who have no representation in legislature. Should therefore, the mode hitherto observed be still adhered to, this great mass of republicans, situated in the most critical part of the Union, where there are the dearest interests to preserve, and the most heinous opposition to contend with—all will have no voice in the nomination of government candidates. Such is the case of the important county of New-York, and it is merely cited as one instance among many, to show the partial manner in which the present mode of nomination operates.

But the evil may grow still worse than it is, under present political circumstances. The representation of the state may pass more fully into federal hands. It may happen, that the republican members, few in number, may all be sent from one of the great districts of the state, as is very natural considering their own immediate and local interests, they select candidates out of their own particular district, contrary to the wishes, and interests of the other portions of the state. To this last suggestion it may be said in reply, that whatever may be the nomination made, it is not binding on the individuals of the party. That after all, every member will have the right to vote as he may think proper. Such objection however, is more specious than solid, and experience shows its fallacy. We all know the influence of nomination; we know that when candidates are regularly proposed in any county mode, by a party, those candidates must be generally supported, and the party will lose its election. It is necessary that it should be so; it is of vital importance to a party. It is the only mode of collecting and concentrating the opinions of the many and giving to them that unity of action which is indispensable to success—and so universally received is the law of political action, that though a nomination be contrary to the wishes and interests of a great minority of the party, yet they will readily acquiesce in its support, rather than jeopardize the ascendancy of the whole.

This plain course of reasoning it is hoped, will be sufficient to manifest that the present mode of nomination is not calculated to give expression to the wishes and opinions of the whole—any, that it is possible that a nomination may be made even by a majority of the legislature, that yet not the voice of one half of the republicans, and the state imperically considered, be given on the occasion.

To elucidate this still further, let us recur to the last expression of party strength in the legislature—out of one hundred and twelve members of the assembly, the republicans of all denominations amounted to only fifty-two, supposing all to be present. In appointing electors for president and vice-president, twenty-three out of this latter number were for one set of candidates and twenty-nine for another. Had the election of the county of New-York, been carried on the republican side (as it might have been, but for the co-action of a section of our party with the federalists), the twenty-three who were for electors favorable to Mr. MADISON, would have been increased to thirty-four, a majority of five over the other republican section. Under such circumstances can it be fair that these twenty-nine members, by being thus a majority of the republicans in the legislature, should elect chief magistrates for the great mass of their fellow republicans?

To render, then, this course of public sentiment perfectly operative, and productive of the end for which it was originally adopted, it is necessary to correct the mode in which it has hitherto been exercised. It is necessary to adopt a mode by which the wishes of every part of the republican party may be expressed, as well those parts which are suffering under the evils of federal domination. And indeed a principle of equity seems to plead peculiarly strong in behalf of the latter desideratum; for it is certainly the wish of their party and health of the state, that they should acquire a political voice, as much as possible, in the selection of political depression, and give these suffering portions of the party every possible opportunity of promoting their local republican interests.

The whole of the arguments here offered, to general consideration, turn on this single elementary proposition, that the majority ought to govern. This maxim must be taken in its true and general sense, not the majority of any particular county, or number of counties, but the majority of republicans throughout the state.

We wish to press upon the minds of our fellow republicans, the importance, at this juncture, of making such a nomination as shall meet with the unanimous approbation of the party. We have already seen the effects of forcing on the many the

interests of the few, and attempting to batter up the candidates for public honors who were unpopular with great sections of the state. The consequence has been, a temporary dismemberment of the republican party. The seeds of division have been sown in our bosom; we have wandered away from each other in affection and sentiment; and our party has lost its ascendancy in the state legislature, and its proper influence in the affairs of the nation. This, too, has happened at a moment when our government is involved in an arduous contest with a powerful external enemy; when its exertions are paralyzed by the dissension of a party which our country; and when it has need of the aid of all its patriotic adherents to support its dignity and culture its operations.

The adverse party, struck to our division, and rendered by our dissension, has been enabled to establish themselves into temporary power; they are in fact but tenants on our soil, and it remains with us by united and united efforts, to dispossess them.

Fall of anxiety, therefore, from the crucial nature of the present crisis; earnestly solicitous for the honor and prosperity of our country; which we solemnly believe can only be secured by the effective sway of the republican party; we do most respectfully call on our political brethren throughout the state to enter into a measure which we consider as most likely to secure this desirable end. It is one most calculated to embrace and concentrate the wishes of the whole—to produce a nomination that shall enlist every mind, grapple every interest, and arouse every affection, and muscle into a successful effort; by which we shall elevate to the chief offices of our state, such men as shall support the general government, and strengthen the common sense of the nation.

To effect this great object the following plan is proposed:—

That the republicans of each county appoint, in such manner as they may deem proper, ten or twelve delegates as they may have members in the house of assembly.

That those delegates meet in the city of Albany, on the 4th day of March next.

That these delegates united, and they only, shall nominate suitable candidates for governor and lieutenant-governor, to be supported at the ensuing election.

That members of the legislature may be appointed delegates, but no member to be considered a delegate.

In case a delegate appointed by a county is absent from the present of the county shall have a right to fill his place.

Resolved, That a committee of one from each ward, be appointed by the chairman to retire and select 11 candidates for their consideration:—

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| John Ferguson       | Calder Falk     |
| James Thompson      | Archibald Dalry |
| Abraham E. Brainerd | Archibald Dalry |
| John Targie         | Isaac H. Pratt  |
| Richard Berrian     | John Davis      |

Were appointed the Committee, who reported the following:—

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Nathan Sanford  | John Targie        |
| William Fox     | Gabriel Hanson     |
| Thomas R. Smith | Samuel Lawrence    |
| Samuel Torbert  | Frederick Jenkins  |
| Augustus Wright | William H. Ireland |
| Isaac Berrian   | Isaac Berrian      |

And thereupon resolved unanimously, That the foregoing be and the same are hereby appointed Delegates from the city and county of New-York.

Resolved, That the republican general committee of the city of New-York, be instructed to have the said address and resolutions circulated throughout the several counties of the state.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the National Advocate, the Public Advertiser, and Mercantile Advertiser, and that the republican papers in the other parts of the state be requested to re-publish the same.

AUGUSTUS WRIGHT, Chairman.

ADRIAN HEGEMAN, Secretary.

FROM THE BOSTON PATRIOT.

### “FREE TRADE AND NO IMPRESSMENT.”

DECATUR.  
If any man can read the following deed of baseness without suffering his blood and spirits to rise up in wrath against the villain Robert Elliot, commander of the king of England's ship Porcupine, he is no American; but a full-blooded Briton, and a disgrace to his country. Martyrs in religion have been placed among Saints; martyrs in the cause of national freedom should have a next seat to them. Isaac Clark is a sufferer in the case that has become national. England waged a furious war against Spain for cutting off the ears of Englishmen; and shall we submit like horses and dogs to the lash of those worse than Algerines, whose customs, habits and prejudices, may be some excuse, while Englishmen, a nation of laws, and professing the same religion—shall treat an innocent, yet more, a brave and noble minded American seaman, with this shocking barbarity. The mode of whipping on board a British man of war is little short of the Russian knot.

ISAAC CLARK, of St. Louis, in the county of Essex, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on solemn oath declare, that I was born in the town of Randolph, in the county of Norfolk; have sailed out of Salem about seven years; that on the fourteenth day of June, eighteen hundred and nine, I was taken on board, and forcibly taken from the ship Jane, of Norfolk, by the sailing master (his name was Carr) of his majesty's ship Porcupine, Robert Elliot, commander. I had a protection from the Custom House in Salem, which I showed to Capt. Elliott, he swore I was an Englishman, and there my protection was placed before my eyes, and threw it overboard, and ordered